

REMARKS

This Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. This application is a continued prosecution application of Application No. 09/514,872. Accompanying this Amendment is a copy of a Petition, under 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), for consideration after the issue fee has been paid of an information disclosure statement under §1.97 in a continued prosecution application. The voluminous nature of the information disclosure statement makes its submission by facsimile impractical. As such, Applicants' have indicated in the 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5) Petition that the information disclosure statement will be filed concurrently by First Class Mail.

In this continued prosecution application, Applicants have amended some of the pending dependent claims and present new claims in order to more fully protect Applicants' invention. No new matter has been added.

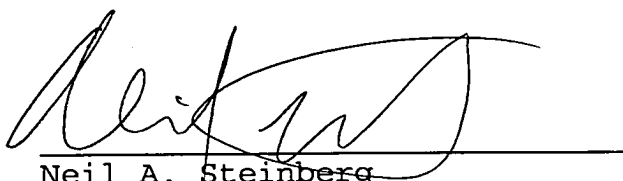
The newly submitted claims are believed to be fully supported by the specification -- see, for example, Figures 2 and 10-13; page 13, line 13 to page 14, line 3; page 20, line 20 to page 23, line 3; page 27, line 23 to page 28, line 20; page 46, line 19 to page 48, line 17; page 53, line 5 to page 59, line 2.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application. Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

It is noted that should a telephone interview expedite the prosecution in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Neil Steinberg at 650-944-7772.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Neil A. Steinberg', written over a horizontal line.

Neil A. Steinberg
Reg. No. 34,735
650-944-7772

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